United Nations PBC/4/OC/SR.2

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
12 October 2010

Original: English

Peacebuilding Commission
Organizational Committee
Fourth session

Summary record of the 2nd meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 16 September 2010, at 11 a.m.

Chairperson: Mr. Wittig ..... (Germany)

Contents

Adoption of the agenda

Letter dated 19 July 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent *within one week of the date of this document* to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

Any corrections to the record of the public meetings of the Committee at this session will be consolidated in a single corrigendum, to be issued shortly after the end of the session.

10-53647 (E)

Please recycle

The meeting was called to order at 11.15 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda (PBC/4/OC/8)

1. *The agenda was adopted.*

Letter dated 19 July 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission (A/64/870-S/2010/389)

2. **The Chairperson** drew attention to the letter dated 19 July 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission (A/64/870-S/2010/389), which conveyed the Security Council's support for the request from the Liberian Government that Liberia should be placed on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission, and which he had circulated to all Committee members by a note dated 26 July 2010. In the same note, he had also conveyed a request from the Liberian Government requesting that the Commission should conduct an exploratory mission to Liberia in order to discuss peacekeeping priorities with the Government and other stakeholders. That mission, led by a member of the United States Mission, had taken place from 17 to 27 August 2010 with the participation of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). The report on the mission's findings was being finalized in close consultation with the Liberian Government and should contribute to the development of the Commission's instrument of engagement with Liberia.

3. He took it that the Committee wished to take note of the letter dated 19 July 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission, thereby deciding to place Liberia on the agenda of the Commission.

4. *It was so decided.*

5. **The Chairperson** said that, on the basis of the Committee's decision to place Liberia on the Commission's agenda, and pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005), as well as the Commission's provisional rules of procedure (PBC/1/OC/3), he took it that the Committee wished to establish a country-specific configuration on Liberia, with membership consisting, initially, of the members of the Committee, pending further consultations within the Committee on additional members.

6. *It was so decided.*

7. **The Chairperson** drew attention to the letters dated 26 August 2010 and 9 September 2010 which he had received from the President of Liberia and the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations, respectively, regarding the office of Chairperson of the envisaged country-specific configuration on Liberia.

8. On the basis of prior informal consultations, as well as on the content of those two letters, taking into consideration that the Permanent Representative of Jordan had indicated his country's interest in becoming a member of the country-specific configuration on Liberia, once established, and in the absence of any additional nominations, he took it that the Committee wished to elect Mr. Al-Hussein (Jordan) by acclamation to the office of Chairperson of the Commission's country-specific configuration on Liberia.

9. *It was so decided.*

10. **The Chairperson** recalled that the representatives of Liberia and Jordan had been invited to participate in the current meeting, with the consent of the Committee members.

11. *At the invitation of the Chairperson, Ms. Kamara (Liberia) and Mr. Al-Hussein (Jordan) took places at the Committee table.*

12. **Ms. Kamara** (Liberia) expressed her Government's gratitude for the actions taken to date in response to its request for Liberia to be placed on the Commission's agenda. In particular, she commended the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, the Peacebuilding Support Office and the United States Mission to the United Nations for their efforts. Her Government's request had been motivated by a number of critical gaps that constituted risks to the long-term stability and security of Liberia. The recent extension of the mandate of UNMIL, which had played a vital role in supporting peace in Liberia since 2003, was particularly welcome since, although progress had been made, the country's security situation was still fragile.

13. The Liberian Government was committed to ensuring the conduct of free and fair elections in 2011 and hoped that its engagement with the Commission would help it to develop the necessary capacity to address problems in the three areas mentioned by the

President of the Security Council in her letter dated 19 July 2010 (A/64/870-S/2010/389), namely, strengthening the rule of law, supporting security sector reform and supporting national reconciliation. It was vital to address the identified shortfalls as Liberia could not afford to fall back into civil conflict.

14. Her Government was pleased that the representative of Jordan had agreed to chair the country-specific configuration on Liberia and looked forward to working closely with him, as well as with the Commission and the Peacebuilding Support Office, by assuming national ownership of the process and its share of accountability for the activities that would be supported by the Commission.

15. **Mr. Al-Hussein** (Jordan) said that he was honoured to serve as the Chairperson of the country-specific configuration on Liberia and looked forward to a fruitful partnership with the Liberian Government and all other relevant partners in addressing the peacebuilding priorities set out in the letter from the Liberian Government requesting that Liberia should be placed on the Commission's agenda.

16. *Ms. Kamara (Liberia) and Mr. Al-Hussein (Jordan) withdrew.*

17. **The Chairperson** said that he intended to respond to the letter from the President of the Security Council, in order to convey the actions taken by the Commission since its receipt and the decisions taken by the Committee at the current meeting, and to indicate that the Commission would remain in close contact with the Security Council throughout its engagement with Liberia, which would begin shortly.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.